

IN THE CLAIMS:

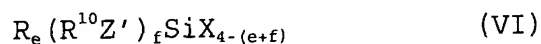
Please amend the claims as follows:

4. (Amended) Use of the silanes according to claim 1 for the preparation of silicic acid polycondensates or of silicic acid heteropolycondensates by hydrolytic condensation of one or more hydrolytically condensable compounds of silicon and optionally other elements from the group B, Al, P, Sn, Pb, the transition metals, the lathanides and the actinides, and/or precondensates derived from the above-named compounds, optionally in the presence of a catalyst and/or a solvent, by the action of water or moisture, characterized in that 5 to 100 mol-% based on monomeric compounds of the hydrolytically condensable compounds are selected from silanes of the general formula I:



in which the radicals are as defined in claim 1.

6. (Amended) Use according to claim 4, characterized in that one or more compounds of the general formula VI are used, optionally in precondensed form, as further hydrolytically condensable compounds of silicon:



in which the radicals and indices have the following meaning:

X = hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, alkoxy, acyloxy,  
alkylcarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl or  $\text{NR}''_2$ ;

R = alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, alkylaryl or arylalkyl;

R'' = hydrogen, alkyl or aryl;

R<sup>10</sup> = alkylene or alkenylene, these radicals being able to be  
interrupted by oxygen or sulphur atoms or -NH groups;

Z' = halogen or an optionally substituted amino, amide,  
aldehyde, alkylcarbonyl, carboxy, mercapto, cyano,  
alkoxy, alkoxycarbonyl, sulfonic acid, phosphoric acid,  
acyloxy, methacryloxy, epoxy or vinyl group;

e = 0, 1, 2 or 3;

f = 0, 1, 2 or 3, with  $e + f = 1, 2 \text{ or } 3$ .

7. (Amended) Use according to claim 4, characterized in that one or more compounds of the general formula VIII are used, optionally in precondensed form, as further hydrolytically condensable compounds of silicon:



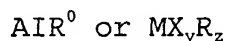
in which the radicals X and R have the meaning given in claim 6 and the other radicals and indices have the following meaning:

Y = a substituent which contains a substituted or unsubstituted 1,4,6-trioxaspiro-[4,4]-nonane radical;

n = 1,2 or 3;

m = 1,2 or 3, with  $n + m \leq 4$ .

8. (Amended) Use according to claim 4, characterized in that one or more aluminum, titanium or zirconium compounds, soluble in the reaction medium, of the formula:



are used, optionally in precondensed form, as further hydrolytically condensable components, in which M stands for titanium or zirconium, the radicals R,  $\text{R}^0$  and X are the same or different,  $\text{R}^0$  represents halogen, hydroxy, alkoxy or acyloxy, y is an integer from 1 to 4, in particular 2 to 4, z stands for 0,1,2 or 3, preferably for 0,1 or 2 and X and R are as defined in claim 6.

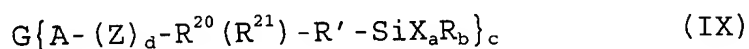
9. (Amended) Use according to claim 4, characterized in that one or more initiators are added to the polycondensate, and the

polycondensate cures thermally, photochemically, in covalent-nucleophilic or by redox-induction.

A<sup>3</sup> 10. (Amended) Use according to claim 4, characterized in that one or more radically and/or ionically polymerizable components are added to the polycondensate before polymerization.

A<sup>4</sup> 13. (Amended) Use according to claim 11, characterized in that the polymerisate is hydrolytically condensed, optionally in the presence of further, hydrolytically condensable compounds of silicon and optionally other elements from the group B, Al, Sn, Pb, the transition metals, the lanthanides and the actinides, and/or precondensates derived from the above-named compounds by the action of water or moisture, optionally in the presence of a catalyst and/or a solvent.

A<sup>5</sup> 15. (Amended) Use according to claim 4, characterized in that one or more compounds of the general formula IX are used, optionally in precondensed form, as further condensable compounds of silicon:



in which the radicals and indices have the following meaning:

X = hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, alkoxy, acyloxy, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl or  $\text{NR}''_2$ :

R = alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, alkylaryl or arylalkyl;

R' = alkylene, alkenylene, arylene, arylenealkylene or alkylenearylene in each case with 0 to 10 carbon atoms, these radicals being able to be interrupted by oxygen and sulphur atoms or by amino groups;

R'' = hydrogen, alkyl or aryl;

G = a straight-chained or branched organic radical with at least one C=C double bond and 4 to 50 carbon atoms;

A = O, S or NH for  $d = 1$  and

Z = CO and

$R^{20}$  = alkylene, arylene or alkylenearylene in each case with 1 to 10 carbon atoms, these radicals being able to be interrupted by oxygen and sulphur atoms or by amino groups, and

$R^{21}$  = COOH;

or

A = O, S or NH for  $d = 1$  and

Z = CO and  
 $R^{20}$  = alkylene, arylene, alkylenearylene in each case  
 with 1 to 10 carbon atoms, these radicals being  
 able to be interrupted by oxygen and sulphur  
 atoms or by amino groups, and  
 $R^{21}$  = H;

or

A = O,S,NH or COO and d = 1 and  
 Z = CHR, with R equal to H, alkyl, aryl or alkylaryl,  
 and  
 $R^{20}$  = alkylene, arylene or alkylenearylene in each case  
 with 1 to 10 carbon atoms, these radicals being  
 able to be interrupted by oxygen and sulphur atoms  
 or by amino groups, and  
 $R^{21}$  = OH;

or

A = O,S,NH or COO for d = 0 and  
 $R^{20}$  = alkylene, arylene or alkylenearylene in each case  
 with 1 to 10 carbon atoms, these radicals being  
 able to be interrupted by oxygen and sulphur  
 atoms or by amino groups, and  
 $R^{21}$  = OH;

or

A = s for  $d = 1$  and

Z = CO and

$R^{20}$  = N and

$R^{21}$  = H;

A a = 1, 2 or 3;

b = 0, 1 or 2;

a+b = 3;

c = 1, 2, 3 or 4;

d = 0 or 1.

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